

## ÉCOLE ALPHA SECONDARY SCHOOL

### PAC MINUTES

Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

**Attendance via Zoom:** Mr. Pare, Ashley Sandquist, Melanie Sing, Janice Chiem, Gloria McKale, Cindy Cheta, Arlene Elliott, Donna Rae-Yeung, K, Nota Spencer, 5A07, Lau Bliss, C.Ching, Mark Chu, Ella Ho, Melanie Wilkins-Ho, CF, Terry C, Mimi Lim, Arthur Lin, Margo Hrennikoff, Anna Maria, Judy, Sandy iphone, Kim, Tammie M, Mariana, Kumiko Yamada, Shohreh Esfandiari, Irene Li, Sally Felkai, Anita's iphone, Tomoko Onuma, Doreen Lee, Cindy, Stace Dayment, Alpha/Brentwood, Johanna Kwan, Louise Hazemi, JR's iphone, Ding Kimi, DM, Aish, R.Edwards, Shon, Thang Le Viet, Hassan Makhoulf, Ragu, AK

**Regrets:** Amy Tong, Dan Yang

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Ashley welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- June minutes – Margo made motion to approve minutes, Sally seconded, all in favor – motion passed.

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Last Wednesday was Terry Fox run, student participation was excellent, and they were well behaved.
- September 30<sup>th</sup> was the second Truth and Reconciliation Day, some Indigenous students led the day and shared stories. Brad Baker was invited to the school and shared his stories.
- Grade 12 assembly this Friday, various staff and presenters will be talking about post secondary applications, scholarship, grad dinner/dance, and school leaving ceremony. A session for parents will be on October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- The first sitting of provincial assessment will be in the first week of November. Grade 12 students must write the assessment to graduate. It is a graduation requirement. Most students will write in November, some will write in January. The assessments are not course specific. In grade 12, students must write the literacy assessment. The assessment does not impact school grades.
- Meet the teacher was on September 21<sup>st</sup>, it was heart warming to see so many families at the school.
- October 19<sup>th</sup> is the in-person Parent-Teacher conference. Online booking tool will be opened from October 3 to 15.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

- General account available balance for PAC use: \$21,536
- Gaming account available balance for PAC use: \$15,712
- Please email Melanie Sing for a copy of the full financial report.
- Gaming grant is for scholarships and Teachers Wish List
- Dry grad does their own fundraising throughout the school year, so they do not use money from the gaming grant.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- nil

## **VICE-CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- nil

## **CLASS REP REPORTS**

- Grade 8 – Sally asked if students can still change their courses and if they should go to the counsellors. Mr. Pare said semester 1 is well on its way but students can still adjust schedule for semester 2. It is not preferred for the students to change semester 1 courses at this time because it can give students a wrong message and that they can quit if the course is difficult or if they are not doing well.  
Sally is building a mailing list for grade 8 parents. Please send her your email address.
- Grade 9 – Nothing to report
- Grade 10 – Nothing to report
- Grade 11 – Can students attend the parent-teacher conference? Mr. Pare said they are welcome to come but 99% of the time only parents attend.
- Grade 12 – UBC info session is tomorrow from 3-5pm, what is the format of the session? Mr. Pare said an UBC representative will come to the school at 3pm and will give updates to application process. Parents are welcome to attend but they do not encourage parents' involvement.  
Suggestion for speaker this year during PAC meeting: healthy internet safety/sex education. Mr. Pare said if anyone has a speaker in mind, please send him an email with the information.
- Mini school – n/a
- ELL – n/a
- CPF – Ella plans to apply for the CPF grant but will check with Ashley as there are 4-5 grants.

## **DPAC**

- DPAC meeting was supposed to be on September 19<sup>th</sup> but was cancelled due to the statutory holiday.
- There will be a PAC 101 session for new PAC executives on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Donna provided the link in the chat.

## **FUNDRAISING**

- n/a

## **GRAD PARENT COMMITTEE:**

- Cindy is planning a Zoom meeting with grade 12 parents on October 10<sup>th</sup>. She is hoping to meet with the parents and brainstorm ideas.
- Cindy ordered SPC cards for fundraising.

## **COMMUNITY POLICE**

- We have a student representative, and his name is Travis.
- First meeting was held at the end of September and was focused on youth issues in the community.
- Issues: youths from affluent families carrying bear sprays, knives and areas of concern are: Solo district, Madison Centre, Confederation Park, Brentwood mall.
- There were two issues with bear sprays (threat and actual release of bear sprays) at Confederation Park and two Alpha students were involved.
- A homeless person was removed from north of Confederation Park.
- Car theft is still a concern around the neighborhood.

## **OTHER BUSINESS & QUESTIONS from parents**

- Louise asked if anyone would be interested to join her and start a committee for the use of the school field. She would like to meet with Parks and Recreation and the school district to find out more about the field and apply for community grants. Ashley said she talked to the trustees, but nothing would happen until after the election. Mr. Pare said there are procedures to follow and if that does not work, then can create the committee. Donna supports Louise and mentions that there is a Facility Committee at DPAC. Mr. Pare said the city owns the land and the school board is to take care of the land. Louise will wait till the end of October and then see. City members are not in session until November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- A parent asked about the report on racism in Burnaby schools. What will Alpha be doing in response to that report? Can Alpha PAC support the incorporation of the recommendations? Mr. Pare said staff will be having a leadership meeting tomorrow and discuss the report. The school has established a BIPOC affinity group, students gather to share experiences and give opportunity for staff to know what is happening. There are also displays, assemblies, and in class learning about racism.

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:01pm.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES OF INTEREST**

- Oct 10 – Thanksgiving Day, school closed
- Oct 12 – Photo Retake Day
- Oct 19 – Early Dismissal
- Oct 20 – Early Dismissal
- Oct 21 – Pro D Day, school closed
- Oct 31 – Nov 4 – Provincial Assessments